

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEA-02 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 OIC-04

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 /217 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TT/MA:JMGARNER:EE

APPROVED BY EB/MA:RKBANK

H - MR. MACKENZIE (INFO)

EB - C. HAND (INFO)

EUR/NE - MR. DAWKINS

----- 049928

R 162146Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, ENRG, PFOR, FI

SUBJ: THE ENERGY TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT OF 1974

FINNISH EMBOFF HAS PRESENTED NOTE TO DEPT DATED MAY 16

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TO REGISTER CONCERN ABOUT RECENT HOUSE ACTION ON CARGO

PREFERENCE BILL FOR OIL IMPORTS. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF
NOTE:

QUOTE THE EMBASSY OF FINLAND PRESENT THEIR COMPLIMENTS TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND HAVE THE HONOUR TO REFER TO THE
BILL (HR 8193) ON WHICH VOTING HAS TAKEN PLACE LAST WEEK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND ACCORDING TO WHICH, IF
IMPLEMENTED, A CERTAIN PROPORTION OF UNITED STATES IMPORTS
OF OIL PRODUCTS WOULD BE RESERVED TO UNITED STATES FLAG
VESSELS.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WILL BE AWARE THAT THE GOVERNMENT
OF FINLAND TOGETHER WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS,
MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN FEBRUARY
1972 AT A TIME WHEN A PREVIOUS PROPOSAL INVOLVING THE
RESERVATION OF A PROPORTION OF UNITED STATES OIL IMPORTS
TO UNITED STATES FLAG VESSELS WAS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN
CONGRESS.

THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INFORM THE DEPARTMENT
THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND FEELS GREAT CONCERN AT
THE REVIVAL OF THESE PROPOSALS IN THE UNITED STATES
CONGRESS AT THE PRESENT TIME. IT SEEMS EVIDENT THAT THEY
WILL HAVE SOME NEGATIVE EFFECT ON FINNISH SHIPPING AND FOR
THIS REASON THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND WOULD FEEL CONCERN.

THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND BELIEVES IT TO BE THE VIEW OF
THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT CARGO RESERVATION, NO
MATTER HOW ATTRACTIVE IN THE SHORT TERM, IS OF LONG TERM
DETIMENT TO THOSE PROTECTED AND TO THE ECONOMIC AND
EFFICIENT CARRIAGE OF TRADE. MOREOVER THE APPLICATION OF
CARGO RESERVATION TO BULK COMMERCIAL CARGOES WOULD BE A
MAJOR CHANGE OF POLICY FOR THE UNITED STATES. FAR FROM
ACTING AS A DEFENSE AGAINST THE PRACTICE OF CARGO RESER-
VATION, THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND GREATLY FEARS THAT IT
WOULD ENCOURAGE ITS WIDER ADOPTION ESPECIALLY BY THOSE
PRODUCER COUNTRIES WHO ALREADY HAVE AMBITIONS TOWARDS
THE EXPANSION OF THEIR BULK CARGO FLEETS.

THE EMBASSY AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW
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TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE THE ASSURANCES OF THEIR HIGHEST
CONSIDERATION. UNQUOTE RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, MARINE TRANSPORTATION, SECURITY, LAW, PETROLEUM, IMPORTS, DISCRIMINATION, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, HR 8193, CARGO SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE102530
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JMGARNER:EE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740122-0312
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740541/aaaabkil.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 NOV 2002 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE ENERGY TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT OF 1974 FINNISH EMBOFF HAS PRESENTED NOTE TO DEPT DATED MAY 16
TAGS: ETRN, ENRG, PFOR, FI, US
To: HELSINKI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005